

NEBRASKA STATE FIRE MARSHAL OFFICIAL INTERPRETATION



Interpretation Number: 96-06

Date: 31 October 2003 (original 27 Feb 1996)

Pamphlet Number: Title 156, NAG

Section(s): 4.1.1(3), 4.1.3(11)

Comments:

"Employee Only" accessibility requirements

Question: Must "employee only" areas be made accessible under Title 156?

Response: Yes. Employee areas in all new and altered facilities shall be made accessible.

Employee parking lots shall be constructed with the number of van accessible and handicap accessible parking spaces specified by the accessibility code.

All new toilet facilities are required to be designed and constructed to be accessible. This includes grab bars, lavatory knee space, toilet heights and the five foot turning radius, etc. The only cases where it is allowable for a toilet facility to not be built accessible is in a private toilet room for a private office or a private room. In these cases the toilet facility must be made readily adaptable. The toilet facility must then be made fully accessible immediately as the need arises.

Employee work areas shall be made accessible from an accessible route within the building into and out of the work area. However, storage, individual work spaces (i.e., cubicles) and furniture layouts within the work space are not required to comply with the reach ranges and clear floor space requirements set forth for public-use spaces. Employee lounges, conference rooms, waiting rooms and the like are required to be fully accessible as they are not specifically work areas.

Where an emergency alarm system is required by other codes, visual alarms are also required. This includes such as conference and meeting rooms, break rooms and work rooms in addition to hallways, lobbies, restrooms and other common use areas.

Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Title: Dennis C. Hohbein, State of Nebraska Fire Marshal